Amendment Dated April 25, 2006
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IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace the paragraph on page 3, lines 1-12 with the following paragraph:

According to an embodiment of the invention, an identity management infrastructure includes a set of dynamically configured client interfaces that communicate with a data access daemon. The data access daemon processes and fulfils requests by communicating with third party databases via a data access layer containing APIs that allow the data access daemon to communicate with the databases. Providing a self-configuring user interface facilitates rapid creation of network services, and allows the services to be modified without requiring extensive changes to the user interface. Utilizing a data access layer to separate the data access daemon from the data directories allows the directories to be modified without affecting the data access daemon or the manner in which the application interfaces with the identity management infrastructure. Common data format schemas facilitates deployment of new services on the network by allowing services to be defined to take advantage of the features provided by the identity management infrastructure.

Please replace the paragraph on page 4, lines 15-22 with the following paragraph:

According to an embodiment of the invention, the identity management infrastructure includes a set of dynamically configured client interfaces that communicate with a data access daemon. The data access daemon employs a pluggable data access layer module to communicate with third party databases which store the information. Providing a self-configuring user interface facilitates rapid creation of network services and allows for modifications to the services without requiring extensive changes to the user interface. Utilizing a data access layer to separate the data access daemon from the data directories allows the directories to be modified without affecting the data access daemon.

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